(b) whether it is a fact that advertisements all over the country were given on that day;

(c) whether the cost of advertisements totalled over Rs. 50 crore;

(d) if not, the approximate cost of all media advertisements given on that day; and

(e) the steps proposed to advertise less and invest the funds in solar pumps, wind energy and seminars in small and intermediate towns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Rajiv Gandhi Akshay Urja Diwas was celebrated all over the country on 20th August, 2007. Events such as runs, rallies, exhibitions, quiz, essay writing, posters making competitions etc. on renewable energy are organised in all State capitals, districts and blocks with larger participation of school children and college students to create awareness about renewable energy.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The cost of advertisement for 20th August, 2007 is about Rs. 1.15 crore only.

(e) Dissemination of information and publicity plays an important role in creating awareness about the need, benefits and uses of renewable energy in our day to day life. Renewable energy is the key to deal with the emerging problems of environmental pollution, global warming and climate change besides meeting our energy needs. Expenditure incurred on advertisements on 20.8.2007 is less than one per cent of budget provision of the Ministry.

Funds for wind, solar and hybrid system in Chhattisgarh

†2842. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from Chhattishgarh regarding release of funds for wind, solar and hybrid system and its propagation in the unelectrified villages;

(b) if so, the present status thereof; and

(c) by when the funds would be released, if not released so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Chhattishgarh Renewable Energy Development Agency (CREDA), Raipur has sent a few preliminary proposals for financial support under the scheme of Small Wind Energy and Hybrid Systems Programme.

(b) and (c) Additional information has been sought from CREDA, Raipur for providing Central Financial Assistance as per provisions of the scheme.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.